



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

31 AUGUST 2020

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Francisco – Man Found with 24-Pounds of Meth Last Year Sentenced to Five Years in Prison

Vladimir Magallan Gallegos was found sleeping in his car by authorities in 2019, leading to the discovery of 24-pounds of methamphetamine in his vehicle. Gallegos caught authorities' attention while they were investigating another person who was believed to be in contact with the Sinaloa Cartel, according to the prosecution sentencing memo.

SOURCE: 28 August 2020, [Mercury News](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas - \$4 Million Dollars' Worth of Marijuana Discovered By US Border Patrol Agents

(U) Laredo – A routine search by border patrol agents turned into the discovery of 5,350-pounds of illicit marijuana wrapped in 245 individual bundles, with an estimated street value of \$4 million. Agents discovered numerous wrapped bundles near the banks of the Rio Grande River, as well as some bundles partially stacked inside a nearby 18-wheeler. No arrests were made, and the truck and trailer were seized by US authorities.

SOURCE: 28 August 2020, [News 4 San Antonio](#)

(U) Texas – Mexican Authorities Discover Border Tunnel

(U) Brownsville – Mexican authorities have discovered a tunnel under the Rio Grande connecting the cities of Matamoros, Mexico, and Brownsville, Texas, media reported on Thursday citing US Customs and Border Protection. The tunnel was equipped with a generator, water pump, and hoses. The length of the tunnel has not been reported, nor has its terminus on the US side, although social media reports indicated it led to the Brownsville neighborhood of Southmost.

SOURCE: 28 August 2020, [Mexico Daily News](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Florida – Authorities Seized More Than \$1 Million of Cocaine Washed Up on a Florida Beach

(U) Hollywood – Thirty wrapped packages containing cocaine, weighing about 78-pounds and estimated street value of more than \$1 million, were discovered last Monday by a person on the beach in Hollywood, Florida, just south of Fort Lauderdale, according to a statement from US Border Patrol Miami Sector. Over the course of July and August, Border Patrol Miami Sector responded to "multiple reports of narcotic wash-ups" on the Florida coast, resulting in more than 210-pounds of seized cocaine.

According to authorities, this indicates an operational presence of drug traffickers off Florida's coast.

SOURCE: 30 August 2020, [CNN](#)

(U) Missouri – Police Officer, the 8th Shot Since June, Dies from His Injuries

(U) St. Louis – Officer Tamarris Bohannon suffered a head wound when he was shot while responding to a late-afternoon call involving a gunman, St. Louis Police Commissioner John Hayden told reporters

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Saturday. Bohannon was the eighth St. Louis officer shot since June.

SOURCE: 30 August 2020, [ABC News](#)

(U) Nevada – Russian ‘Spy’ Offered Tesla Employee \$1 Million to Install Virus

(U) Sparks – According to court documents, a 27-year-old Russian man named Egor Igorevich Kriuchkov messaged the Tesla employee via WhatsApp after previously meeting in 2016. He asked the Tesla employee if they would install custom-built malware on the company's internal network for a hefty reward. The malware reportedly cost around \$250,000 and was designed to steal sensitive Tesla files and data.

SOURCE: 28 August 2020, [The Sun](#)

(U) Texas – Hospital Hit with Ransomware Attack

(U) Houston – The United Memorial Medical Center (UMMC) reportedly was hit by a ransomware attack at the end of July. On or about 3 August, Maze Team—who had briefly sworn off attacking medical facilities because of the pandemic—added UMMC to their leak site. The threat actors use the site to name victims who have not paid their ransom demands. They generally dump some of the data that they claim to have hacked, presumably to motivate their victims more to pay up before more data is dumped. The investigation is ongoing.

SOURCE: 30 August 2020, [Databreaches](#)

(U) Wisconsin – Police Indirection Prevents Violent Extremist Activity

(U) Kenosha – During the early evening hours of 26 August, Kenosha Police Department received a citizen tip alerting to several suspicious vehicles with out of state plates meeting in a remote lot near State Highway 50. Acting on this information Kenosha Police Officers located the suspicious vehicle and took up surveillance. The vehicles included a black school bus, bread truck and minivan. Police followed the vehicles to a gas station, where police observed the occupants attempt to fill multiple fuel cans. Suspecting that the occupants of the vehicles were preparing for criminal activity related to civil unrest, officers made contact to investigate. The minivan driver attempted to drive away; however, Kenosha police stopped this vehicle and arrested the occupants. The vehicles contained various items that included helmets, gas masks, protective vests, illegal fireworks, and suspected controlled substances. Nine individuals were arrested for disorderly conduct and are pending charging decisions by the County District Attorney.

SOURCE: 27 August 2020, [Kenosha Police Press Release](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Mexico – Cártel de Jalisco Nueva Generación using weaponized drones against rivals

(U) Mexico City – The Cártel de Jalisco Nueva Generación (CJNG)—a powerful Mexico-based drug cartel—has reportedly used drones strapped with explosives against its rivals since at least 2017, according to a consulting firm, and none of the other cartels appear to presently even be experimenting with the weaponization of these devices. Earlier this month a militia group formed by farmers in Michoacán reported finding two drones with C4 explosives and ball bearings strapped to them and reported hearing explosions which they attribute to the devices.

SOURCE: 30 August 2020, [New York Post](#)

(U) United Kingdom – Counterterror Arrests at Stansted After Fighter Jets Intercept Airliner

(U) Stansted – A 34-year-old from Kuwait and a 48-year-old from Italy were detained by counterterrorism officers from the Eastern Region Special Operations Unit on Sunday. The two men had

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arrived on a flight from Vienna and were detained under the UK's Schedule 7 of the Terrorism Act, police said. Media has reported the Ryanair plane was intercepted by RAF Typhoon jets following unconfirmed reports of a security threat on board.

SOURCE: 31 August 2020, [The Guardian](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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